

*Characters of new or little known species of the Coleopterous genus HOPLIA ; by CHAS. O. WATERHOUSE.*

### MELOLONTHIDÆ.

#### *Hoplia aurantiaca*, n. sp.

Oblonga, parum convexa, rufo-picea, squamis aurantiacis et ochraceis fulgidis dense vestita. Long. 3 lin., lat.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lin.

A pitchy red species densely clothed (even on the legs and tarsi) with bright golden and ochraceous round scales, the ochraceous scales form on the thorax a patch above each anterior angle and a line on each side of the middle, on the elytra a small spot on the side (about the middle), and a larger oblique sub-apical patch which does not reach the suture, these ochraceous scales appear also golden when viewed obliquely; beneath each shoulder is a round brownish spot. The scales on the abdomen and pygidium are more silvery. Clypeus with the margins strongly reflexed and the angles much rounded. Thorax a little narrower than the elytra,  $\frac{1}{4}$  broader than long, distinctly narrowed in front and behind, angular at the sides, regularly convex. Elytra  $\frac{1}{4}$  longer than broad, moderately depressed above (but not flat), the sides sub-parallel, scarcely arcuate, the sub-apical callosity very little prominent. In some lights the golden scales on the elytra present a mark like an *x*, embracing the more ochreous scales. Anterior tibiæ with three teeth.

Varieties. (1) The ochraceous markings replaced by more fuscous scales, the markings more extended. (2) Scales dusky brown, an *o* shaped mark on the thorax, and an *x* on the elytra obscure golden.

Hab. Java (Dr. Ploem).

#### *Hoplia Bowringii*, n. sp.

Oblonga, picea, squamis argenteo-aureis densissime vestita; elytris dorsim leviter quadri-impressis. Long. 3 lin., lat.  $1\frac{2}{3}$  lin.

Very close to the preceding, but relatively shorter and broader, and the scales are brighter, whiter and uniform in colour. The thorax is rather broader. Elytra relatively shorter, a little more convex (especially at the suture), rather more arcuate at the sides, and on the dorsal region four very shallow impressions may be traced. Legs and tarsi clothed with scales; the anterior tibiae with two teeth.

Hab. Penang (J. C. Bowering, Esq.). Brit. Mus.

*Hoplia fulgida*, n. sp.

Breviter oblonga, picea, squamis læte aureis densissime vestita. Long. 3 lin., lat.  $1\frac{2}{3}$  lin.

Very close to the preceding, but clothed with bright golden scales, which on the elytra and pygidium are flattened as if rolled together, those on the head and thorax are more yellow-golden than those on the rest of the body. The thorax is narrower than in either of the preceding species, and is more narrowed in front and behind, and is more angular at the sides. The elytra are only  $\frac{1}{2}$  longer than broad, and have a fuscous spot under each shoulder; on the disc of each elytron there is a round dark spot, but this may be the result of accident, or merely a sexual mark, as one specimen of *H. Boweringii* has a similar spot. The tarsi are distinctly longer than in the preceding species, and the scales which clothe the posterior pair are narrower.

Hab. Malacca (Captain W. S. Pinwell). Brit. Mus.

*Hoplia aurata*, n. sp.

Oblonga, dorsim depressa, picea, squamis aureis densissime vestita; elytris litterâ x e squamis albis ornatis. Long.  $3\frac{1}{6}$  lin., lat.  $1\frac{2}{3}$  lin.

Very like *H. aurantiaca*, but flatter on the back of the elytra, and the scales which clothe the elytra and pygidium are flattened as if rolled together. Thorax very convex in the middle with three very slight impressions, one in the front in the middle and two near the scutellum, the sides are evenly arcuate; on each side of the disc there is a fuscous spot. Elytra  $\frac{1}{4}$  longer than broad, very flat on the back, distinctly impressed on each side about the middle, a little constricted behind the shoulders, which are angularly prominent: on each elytron there is a crescent of

white scales which together form an  $x$ , the spaces embraced by these crescents appearing a little darker than the rest of the elytron; below each shoulder there is a very small fuscous spot. The anterior tibiae are tridentate. The legs and posterior are clothed with scales.

Hab. Sarawak. Brit. Mus.

*Hoplia squamacea*, White.

Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., xiv. 1844, p. 424.

“Head, thorax, elytra and podex covered with pale yellow shining scales; underside of body covered with similar but somewhat paler scales, those on the side with a pinkish hue. Legs ferruginous, with several hoary scales and hairs.” Length  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lin.

Pitchy, densely clothed with pale greenish-golden not very bright round scales, the scales not so densely packed as in the preceding species, regularly and evenly convex. Thorax a little narrower than the elytra, gently rounded at the sides, the base with a slight mesial lobe. Elytra  $\frac{1}{4}$  longer than broad, evenly convex, nearly straight at the sides, shoulders blunt and not at all prominent, the sub-apical callosity very slightly visible. Legs rather long, sparingly clothed with small narrow whitish scales; anterior tibiae tridentate; tarsi without scales.

Variety. Scales more silvery, tinged with pink.

Distinct from all the preceding by its more evenly convex form, and by the absence of scales on the tarsi.

Hab. Hong Kong (J. C. Bowring, Esq.). Brit. Mus.

*Hoplia squamigera*, Hope.

Gray's Zool. Miscell., 1830, p. 24.

“Squamosa, corpore supra flavo-virescente, subtusque subaurato, tibiis anticis bidentalis.” Long.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lin.

This species has more the form of an *Ectinohoplia*, with angular sides to the thorax, and flat elytra. Thorax at the widest part  $\frac{3}{4}$  the width of the elytra, a little broader than long, convex, much narrowed in front and behind, the anterior angles very acute and prominent, the sides strongly angular in the middle, and gently sinuate behind the middle, the base regularly

arcuate, the disc longitudinally impressed. Elytra very flat, a trifle longer than broad, the shoulders nearly rectangular, blunt, the sides scarcely arcuate, no distinct sub-apical callosity. Legs long, tibiæ and tarsi sparingly clothed with small narrow pale greenish scales. All the upper surface of the insect is densely clothed with dull pale yellow-green scales; the pygidium bright pale silvery-green.

Variety. Scales above rather bright golden-green.

Hab. Nepal. Brit. Mus.

*Hoplia scutellaris*, n. sp.

Oblonga, supra depressa, opaca, supra squamis viridi-albis, subtus squamis fere albidis dense vestita; scutello, tibiis tarsisque squamis viridi-argenteis micantibus tectis. Long.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lin., lat. 2 lin.

Forehead, thorax and elytra densely clothed with small round dull greenish-white scales, the sides of the thorax and the whole underside of the insect densely clothed with nearly white (or extremely pale green) scales. The scales on the scutellum, tibiæ and tarsi are narrower, closer, and pale silvery-green. Thorax evenly convex, the sides distinctly but not very strongly angular in the middle, the base with a rather broad mesial lobe. Scutellum rather large, triangular, a trifle longer than the width at the base. Elytra a little broader than the thorax,  $\frac{1}{4}$  longer than broad, even and flat on the back, parallel at the sides, the shoulders distinct but blunt, the sub-apical callosity not conspicuous; there are some lines of minute black dots, from which proceed short black hairs. Anterior tibiæ with three teeth, but the uppermost very obsolete; anterior tarsi almost without scales. Antennæ and parts of the mouth black.

Hab. N. China (Fortune). Brit. Mus.

♂ related to *H. Paiva*, Woll., but smaller and less broad, a little less depressed, thorax gently sinuate on each side at the base, scutellum larger, elytra relatively a little longer, &c.